

Executive Department State of Idaho

The Office of the Governor **Proclamation**

State Capitol Boise

WHEREAS, ground water is a limited resource; and

WHEREAS, clean abundant ground water is an essential resource to the citizens of Idaho; and

WHEREAS, ground water supplies approximately 95 percent of Idahoans with the water they use to meet their drinking water needs; and

WHEREAS, the agricultural community, private industry and businesses, and our communities rely on large quantities of high-quality ground water for economic prosperity; and

WHEREAS, ground water can be vulnerable to contamination and degradation; and

WHEREAS, ground water and surface water can be interconnected, therefore degraded ground water quality or decreased ground water quantity can adversely impact surface water uses, water uses including drinking water, recreation, irrigation and power generation; and

WHEREAS, ground water is one of Idaho's most precious natural resources, it is appropriate to set aside a special time to call upon all Idahoans, young and old, to learn about the importance of ground water in their lives and to learn how they can protect and conserve our precious ground water resource:

NOW, THEREFORE, I, C.L. "BUTCH" OTTER, Governor of the State of Idaho, do hereby proclaim March 10-16, 2013 to be

GROUND WATER AWARENESS WEEK

in Idaho, and encourage all Idahoans and visitors to make every effort to learn about, protect and conserve our ground water resources in an effort to ensure a clean and safe supply of water now and in the future; I also urge Idaho citizens to recognize the value, importance and vulnerability of our ground water resources.



IN WITNESS WHEREOF, I have hereunto set my hand and caused to be affixed the Great Seal of the State of Idaho at the Capitol in Boise on this 10th day of March in the year of our Lord two thousand and thirteen and of the Independence of the United States of America the two hundred thirty-seventh and of the Statehood of Idaho the one hundred twenty-third.

C.L. "BUTCH" OTTER GOVERNOR

BEN YSURSA SECRETARY OF STATE